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Somerville Historic Commission

The property at 396–398 Broadway is a six-unit historic condominium building located in Somerville, Massachusetts. The building currently suffers from extensive water damage to the exterior, which has compromised the integrity of the wooden siding and window trim. To address the root cause of this deterioration, a full gutter replacement is required prior to commencing any exterior restoration work.

The existing wooden gutters and the fascia behind them exhibit widespread rot, with several sections having decayed completely. In some areas, this deterioration has created holes in the gutter system, and vegetation such as weeds is growing between joints, particularly near the upper edges of the structure.

The proposed scope of work involves replacing the deteriorated wooden gutters with seamless 5" K-style gray aluminum gutters (0.032", 20 gauge), as detailed in the attached contractor quote. The replacement gutters will replicate the profile and color of the original system to ensure compatibility with the building's historic character.

As the abutting neighbors also have metal gutters with near identical architectural features and have maintained a much healthier exterior, we view this gutter replacement as a necessary step toward preserving the architectural integrity of the community and keeping the block at a consistent pedigree of exterior condition.

This work is essential to halt further water damage and prevent future structural issues. Additionally, by replacing the gutters now, the condominium association can phase the restoration of other exterior components—such as siding and trim—across a manageable financial timeline.

Gutter Supplier:

Fall River Seamless Gutters

Company Servicing the installation:

Udderly Gutters

Product:

5" K-Style Gutter, Gray colored seamless aluminum 0.032", 20 gauge gutter.

Replacement Plan – 396–398 Broadway, Somerville, MA

The scope of work includes the removal of the existing wooden gutters located along the front and sides of the property, as well as the removal of the existing metal gutters at the rear of the building. During this process, any fascia boards found to be deteriorated or structurally compromised will be replaced. Fascia boards that are in good condition will remain in place.

Once removal and necessary repairs are complete, new gray seamless aluminum gutters and downspouts will be installed around the entire perimeter of the building. The new gutters will match the existing profile and color to maintain visual continuity with the building's current appearance and surrounding streetscape.





